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Excerpts from the Minutes of Interrogation
of a Defendant

TokyoApril 24, 1946

I, Senior Councillor of Justice Morosov, Military Investigator for the USSR in the International Military Tribunal Far East with Junior Lieutenant Petrov acting as an interpreter, interrogated: HIRANUMA, Kiichiro;

Age : 80

Official Position prior to arrest : Prime Minister of Japan, Chairman Privy Council;

Party Membership :

Address :

Attached herewith the certificates of the interpreter and the stenographer bearing responsibility for incorrect translation and recording.

Interrogation began : at 9.30 Hr.
ended : at 13.00 hr

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Question: What aim did the Japanese Government pursue giving its approval of the Attack of the Japanese troops against the M. P. R. territory in the Nomongan area?

Answer: The attack took place not during my premiership. Therefore I know nothing about it.

Question: You were prime-minister from January 1939 till August 1939, weren't you?

Answer: Yes.

Q. : When did the Nomongan Area incident take place?

A. : I don't remember.

Q. : I remind you that the attack of the Japanese troops against M. P. R. in the Nomongan area took place in May 1939, i. e., when you were prime-minister of Japan and Ueda Kenkiti was commanding General of the Kwantung Army.

A. : It might be so, but, as I have already said, the military acted independently, without reporting their actions to the government and therefore I knew nothing.

- Q. : Then when was it that you learned about the said attack?
 A. : After the opening of the hostilities.
 Q. : Only then?
 A. : Yes, only after the opening of hostilities.
 Q. : Tell us, who reported the events to you, what were the contents of the report, and why for 3 months did you not take measures to check the actions of the Japanese troops attacking the M. P. R.?
 A. : I received information about the outbreak of the incident from War Minister Itagaki, Seishiro. I spoke about the cessation of hostilities many times, but the Military circles were of different opinion.
 Q. : Did you as Prime-minister of Japan give anybody orders that hostilities be ceased? whom and when did you give such orders?
 Answer : As the Supreme Command of the army was not controlled by the government I could not give such orders, but I expressed, my views on the necessity of ceasing hostilities to war Minister Itagaki orally.
 Question: Did you suggest that, because you thought the Japanese attack on M. P. R. wrong?
 A. : My opinion was that all disputes had to be settled by means of negotiations, and not by way of military operations.
 Q. : In other words you considered those actions wrong?
 A. : Yes, I considered those actions wrong.
 Q. : During the Komangan incident, did you as prime-Minister submit to the Emperor your suggestion that Hostilities be ceased?
 A. : No, I did not submit my suggestion to the Emperor.
 Q. : What was Itagaki's reply to your suggestion of the cessation of hostilities?
 A. : Since Itagaki's view was at variance with mine, he considered that hostilities should continue.

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I, Senior Councillor of Justice Morosov, Investigator of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East confirm that Kuranuma, Kiichiro was interrogated by me on April 24, 1946 with Petrov acting as an interpreter and Myamlina as secretary-stenographer and that he, Kuranuma Kiichiro gave the above testimony.

Senior Councillor of Justice ---Morosov.

Interpreter ---Petrov.

Secretary, Stenographer ---Myamlina.

Attached: the certificates of the interpreter and the stenographer.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE DOCUMENT

I, Kaplan, V. A., hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the Russian and English languages; and the above is a correct and true translation of the indicated excerpts of the above document.

Signature: /s/ V. Kaplan

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被告訊問調書抄萃

東京ニ於テ

一九〇六年/昭和二年/四月廿四日

予在東京極東國際軍事裁判所ニ於ケル「ソヴィエト」
社會主義共和國聯邦軍ニ審査官クニ二級司令官
同官モロツ「ハ」ベトロフ「ハ」尉通譯、下ニ下名、
者ヲ被告トシテ訊問セリ。

被告陳述

氏名

平沼騏一郎

年令

八〇

拘引前ノ職名

日本内閣總理大臣

樞密院議長

所属政黨

住所

誤譯ニ對スル責任豫告ニ関スル通訳及速記者、

署名者ハ訊問調書ニ添附ス。

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詢問開始午前九時三〇分

詢問終了午後一時

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問

日本政府ハ「ハルビン・ゴル」地区ニ於ケル蒙古人民
共和國領ニ對スル日本軍ノ攻撃ヲ認可シ如何
ノ目的ヲ追求セシムナリ。

答

攻撃が行ハシムノハ私、總理大臣在職中デハナイ
・デ私ハシニ就キハ何モ知ラナイ。

問

貴下ハ一九三九年／昭和十四年／一月ヨリ一九三九年
八月迄總理大臣デ下ツタデハナイカ。

答

然リ

問

デハ何時「ハルビン・ゴル」ノ事件ハ起シタナリ。

答

私ハ記憶ニテ居ナイ。

問

「ハルビン・ゴル」地区ニ於ケル蒙古人民共和國ニ對スル
日本軍ノ攻撃ハ一九三九年／昭和十四年／五月即チ貴
下ハ月東總理大臣デアリ植田謙吉ハ関東軍司令
官デアツタ時ニ起ツタニトヲ想起セヨ。

答

サウデアルサモエナイが、併之既ニ述ベタ様ニ軍部ハ

No 2

問答問

政府ニ報告セズニ擅自ニ行動シタリタルノシ敵
 兵何モ知ラナカッタ
 貴下カチ政變ヲニ関ス何時聞知シタカ
 軍ヲ行動カ開始セシタ後デアル
 何時始メテ知リタノカ
 然リテ件ヲ開始セシタ後始メテ知リタ
 此ノ事件ニ關シ誰カ何ヲ貴下ニ報告セタカ
 ソレヲ何故貴下ハ三ヶ月間モ蒙古人民共和
 政變ヲシタ日本軍ノ行動ヲ中止セムベキヲ
 段ヲ取ラナカッタヲ求ム

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答私事件発生、報告の陸軍大臣板垣征四郎より
受て、私軍事行動、中止に就き何用を詔せり
併し軍部意見より異なりとせり。

問貴下、日本総理大臣トミテ軍事行動中止スベキ旨
何等カ指令ヲ出シタカ。誰ニ又何時出シタカ。

答軍最高統帥ハ政府ニ隷屬シテガキツクベキナリ
私ハ何等、指令ヲ出スベキトハ出来ナカツク併し
軍事行動中止ノ必要ニ頭テ板垣陸相ニ詔セリ。

問斯レ忠告ヲ與ヘタ、ハ貴下ガ蒙古人民共和ニ對
スル日本軍ノ攻撃ガ正ニシト考ヘタカラデアル。

答私見解ハ凡ソ紛争問題ハ交渉ニヨリ解決ス
ベキテ軍事行動ヲ以テスベキナリトミテ一ツアリ。

問即チ此ニ換ヘテ貴下ハ是等ノ行動正ニシト考
ヘタカ

4 答然リトシタリ

問「ハルビン」事件中貴下ハ総理大臣トミテ軍事
行動中止スベキ旨ヲ陛下ニヒテ奏シタカ

答私此問題ヲ陛下ニヒテ奏シタカ。

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河 軍事行動中止セヨト、貴下、忠告。對之根拠、何
答(タカ)

答 根拠、自認、私、見解ト相違ニシテ、今復、軍
事行動、繼續サレキヲ以テ考ヘニ申ス。

— — — — —

予在東京ニ際、軍事裁判所審査官タル上級司
法顧問官「モロフ」元四、身昭和三年四月三日
「マトロ」通譯及「ミヤロリ」速記書記交、下ニ
予、顧問ニ受ケタル平沼騏一郎が本調書、就
速記ニ付テ証言ヲ下シタルコトヲ確證ス。

上級司法顧問官 「モロフ」署名

通譯

「マトロ」署名

速記書記

「ミヤロリ」署名

添附書類 — 通譯及速記者、署名有キ

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書類 中四一二二號

證

余 中山 登 へ余が日本語 及び
露西語ニ精通セル者ナルコト 並ニ露西語原文
及び日本語原文ヲ対照シ 本書類ヲ眞實
ニ且正確ニ翻譯セルノ事ヲ確證セルニトテ茲ニ證ス。

署名

中山 登

訂正 昭和二十一年八月廿日 署名
九月十二日
(署名)

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